

IN THE ABSTRACT

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--IN THE ABSTRACT

A collection of samples  $S_i$ , representing, for example, an image is filtered in the following manner. A distinction is made between valid samples  $S_{i+}$  and non-valid samples  $S_{i-}$  on the basis of auxiliary data AUX. Filtered samples  $S_o$ , which are associated with the valid samples  $S_{i+}$ , are derived exclusively on the basis of the valid samples  $S_{i+}$ . Accordingly, it is prevented that the filtered samples, which are associated with the valid samples, are mixtures of valid and non-valid samples. Such mixtures cause distortion, in particular if the valid and non-valid samples substantially differ in value.--

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